

09/668,610

REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for calling to suggest changes to move this application to allowance. Specifically, Applicant understands that the application will be allowed if claims 1, 13, 25, and 37 (i.e., the independent claims) are amended to include details from claims 2, 14, 26, and 38, respectively. This response amends claims 1, 13, 25, and 37 accordingly, and cancels claims 2, 14, 26, and 38. This response also amends each of claims 3, 12, 15, 24, 27, 36, 39, and 48 to refer to the appropriate independent claim, in light of the claim cancellations. Applicant reserves the right to file one or more continuing applications to pursue patent coverage for other aspects of the invention. This response also amends claims 49, 50, and 52, to ensure that those claims do not mix elements pertaining to operations or methods with other types of elements.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS

As indicated in the previous response (filed on October 10, 2005), Applicant also requests confirmation that the Examiner has considered all references listed in the Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) that was submitted on December 16, 2003.

09/668,610

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, claims 1, 3-8, 10-13, 15-20, 22-25, 27-32, 34-37, 39-44, and 46-52 should all be in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (512) 732-3927.

Prompt issuance of Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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